

REMARKS

Entry of the amendments presented herewith under the provisions of Rule 116 and allowance of this application are requested.

By way of the amendment instructions above, claim 1 has been amended so as to specify that the dried residue of an aqueous inorganic flame retardant solution is present in an amount between about 25 wt.% to about 500 wt.% sufficient to render the superabsorbent particle flame retardant. Page 6 of the specification unequivocally supports such a range, since 25 wt.% and 500 wt.% are disclosed as a possible low and high end points for such flame retardant. As such, applicants suggest that claim 1 and all claims dependent therefrom are in condition for allowance as the Hosokawa et al reference only discloses a maximum of 5 wt.% phosphoric acid may be included in the therein disclosed superabsorbent resins as a "chelating agent".

Claims 3, 15 and 27 have also been revised so as to correct a recently discovered typographical error therein. Specifically, such claims incorrectly referred to ammonium dihydrogen orthophosphate, instead of "ammonium dihydrogen orthophosphite." It is clear that such a reference was a mere typographical error since the former nomenclature refers to the same compound as "ammonium dihydrogen phosphate" which would have thereby rendered its listing unnecessary, and since the intervening listing of "ammonium hypophosphite" makes it clear that ammonium dihydrogen orthophosphite was intended.

An appropriate amendment to the specification at page 6 has been proposed so as to conform it to the pending claims in terms of the amount of inorganic flame retardant incorporated into the SAP particles and to correct the typographical error with regard to ammonium dihydrogen orthophosphite as noted above.

ROGERS et al
Serial No. 10/829,443
May 11, 2005

Claims 4 and 16 have been amended and claim 38 newly presented so as to specifically define the inorganic flame retardant species as disclosed at page 6, lines 16-19 of the originally filed specification.

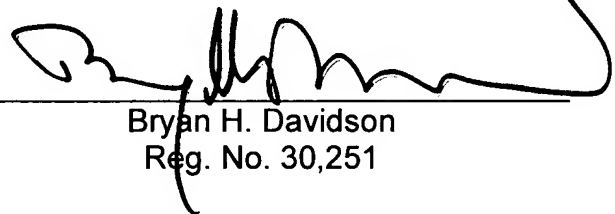
An amendment to include in the specification an appropriate cross-reference to the applicant's prior-filed Provisional Application from which domestic priority benefits under 35 USC §119(e) are claimed has also submitted.

Since the amendments presented above place all claims in condition for allowance, their entry under Rule 116 is believed to be in order. Such favorable action is therefore solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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